

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1853

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to recognize Kathy Whitaker on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Whitaker is one such estimable person who has served with distinction since 1995 as the Director of the First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability and who has announced her much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, serving Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington counties, the First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability seeks to assist older Tennesseans and adults with disabilities in Northeast Tennessee with information and services that promote quality of life and independence; and

WHEREAS, as the Director of the First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability, Ms. Whitaker empowers her clients, staff, and area partners on a daily basis, always available to lend a hand, offer advice, or take on a project; and

WHEREAS, she is committed to promoting programs that help seniors remain in their homes as they age, including home-delivered meals, in-home care, Medicare assistance, caregiver support, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, for Ms. Whitaker, there is no task too big or too small for her to undertake; she recruits volunteers but also volunteers herself to deliver meals to the vulnerable homebound population; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a leader in Tennessee and across the United States, Ms. Whitaker serves on the board of the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies and the USAging Association, advocating for change that will make a positive impact on older adults and those with disabilities for years to come; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Whitaker was recently honored by the YWCA Share the Light – Tribute to Women; nominated by the staff of the Area Agency, she joins an outstanding cohort of women leaders in the region; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Whitaker exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Whitaker has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and the good people of the Northeast Tennessee region; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Kathy Whitaker our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.